

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
AT KNOXVILLE

MIKE TAYLOR,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) No. 3:06-CV-273
) (JARVIS/SHIRLEY)
CITY OF GATLINBURG,)
)
Defendant.)

TONY OWNBY, BUD FRANKLIN,)
WAYNE BRANDENBURG, JERRY BROWN,)
CHARLES E. INMAM, JR., WILLIAM D.)
GIFFORD, RONNIE McCARTER, STEVE LEO,)
EDDIE RUPARD and MICHAEL G. TAYLOR,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
v.) No. 3:89-CV-529
)
CITY OF GATLINBURG,)
)
Defendant.)

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

These cases came before the undersigned pursuant to Local Rule 3.2 of the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee for assignment to a District Judge. The record indicates that in the recently filed case of Taylor v. City of Gatlinburg, Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273, the complaint was filed on or about July 14, 2006. A previous case has been filed styled Ownby, et al., v. City of Gatlinburg, Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529, which was assigned to the Honorable Leon Jordan, United States District Judge.

Pursuant to E.D. TN. LR3.2(d)(3), cases related to cases already assigned to a District Judge shall be assigned or transferred to the Judge assigned to the previously filed case. The procedure set out in Local Rule 3.2(d)(3)(B) provides that “when it appears to the Clerk that a case submitted for filing may be related to a previously filed case, the submitted case shall be referred to the Magistrate Judge assigned to the previously filed case to determine whether or not the cases are related. If the Magistrate determines that the cases are related, the Magistrate will enter an Order directing the Clerk to assign the submitted case to the Judge assigned to the previously filed case.” In this matter, it appeared to the Clerk that the Taylor case, Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273 submitted for filing might be related to the previously filed Ownby, et al. case, Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529 and they were referred to the undersigned to determine whether or not the cases were related.

Cases are deemed related under Local Rule 3.2(d)(3)(A) when a filed case arises out of the same transaction or occurrence and involves one or more of the same parties as an earlier numbered case.

It appears to the undersigned that Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273 (Taylor) is related to the earlier filed case, Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529 (Ownby). Michael G. Taylor was a plaintiff in Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529. The plaintiffs attorney in Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273 also represented the plaintiff's in Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529. The defendant, City of Gatlinburg, is the same defendant in both cases.

Therefore, the undersigned finds that these cases are deemed related as they arise, in substantial part, out of the same transaction, occurrence, or are claimed to be related thereto and involve one or more of the same parties.

Therefore, it is the opinion of the undersigned that Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273 (Taylor) should be assigned to the Honorable Leon Jordan, who was previously assigned to Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529 (Ownby, et al.) in the interest of judicial economy.¹

Accordingly, the Clerk is **DIRECTED** to assign Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-273 and Civil Action No. 3:89-CV-529 to the Honorable Leon Jordan, United States District Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ENTER:

s/ C. Clifford Shirley, Jr.
United States Magistrate Judge

¹The Court also notes and calls the parties attention to Local Rule 3.2(e), which provides that “this rule is intended to provide for the orderly division of the business of the Court and not to grant any right to any litigant.”